

# GROW BIG DREAMS

Mentor. Give. Volunteer.

Young Scholars has a

# 93%

graduation rate; 88% with a regents or advanced designation diploma.

More than  
**50,000** hours  
of community service have been completed by Young Scholars since 1993.

Since 2005,  
**86%**  
of Young Scholars have enrolled in institutions of higher learning.

## The Program

Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program (YSLPP) is a multi-year collaborative project, established in 1993 with Utica College (UC) and the Utica City School District (UCSD). This program is designed by education professionals to motivate diverse and talented students to stay in school, earn a New York State Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, and pursue post-secondary education.

Young Scholars students participate in a comprehensive program providing academic, social, and cultural enrichment.

## Getting Started

Each year, Young Scholars serves more than 350 students from grades 7 through 12. Increased funding could allow even more students to be served.

UCSD teachers nominate students in sixth grade. Those selected include students identified as possessing the potential for success in secondary and post-secondary school, but who may not achieve their full potential due to social and economic risk factors.

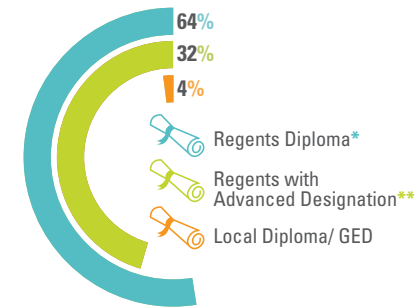
## Achieving Goals

The Young Scholars program teaches students how to recognize and accomplish goals for a college- and career-ready future. These include:

- Maintaining an A or B average
- Earning a New York State Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
- Completing at least 150 hours of community service
- Enrolling in post-secondary education

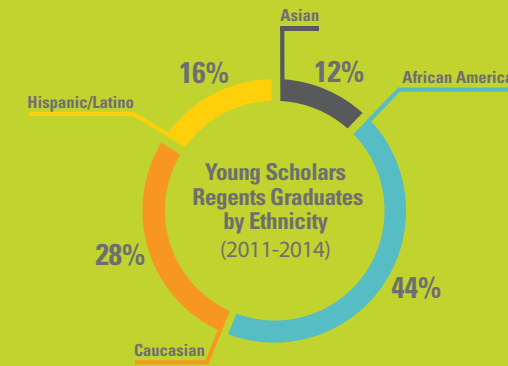
Young Scholars also helps to develop students' personal characteristics, making strong individuals who are invested in their community.

## Young Scholars Class of 2015 Diplomas



\* Criteria for Regents with Advanced Designation: 65% or higher on nine Regents Exams.

\*\* Criteria for Regents Diploma: 65% or higher on five Regents Exams.



Young Scholars Regents Graduates by Ethnicity (2011-2014)

## Built for Success

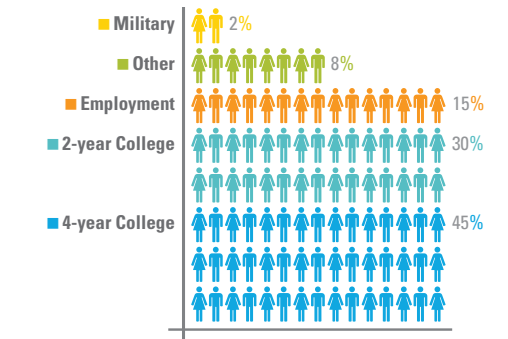
The major components of the Young Scholars program are:

- Academic support, tutoring, and special review sessions (September – June)
- Counseling provided by social workers and staff (Year-round)
- Summer program on the Utica College campus (July)
- Community service (Year-round)
- Enrichment activities, along with college and career exploration (Year-round)
- Mentor program involving community members (Year-round)
- Parent involvement and parent education program (Year-round)

From seventh grade until high school graduation, Young Scholars students receive counseling, complete community service projects, and participate in enrichment activities.

## 15-Year Summary of Post-High School Graduation Outcomes (1999-2014)

During this time, 77% of Young Scholars graduates enrolled in a 2- or 4-year school.



## Support at Home

To increase effectiveness and provide ongoing support, parents and guardians are encouraged to take part in program activities. Parents and guardians also have the opportunity to pursue their own personal development through Utica College undergraduate courses and specially planned workshops.

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Young Scholars  
utica.edu/yslpp

## The Utica City School District Commitment

The UCSD is tirelessly committed to the success of each and every student. That commitment extends to its support of the Young Scholars program – which serves as a comprehensive resource for program students. With a full-time staffed room at each site, Young Scholars have access to daily tutoring, counseling, and advice.



## The Utica College Promise

Utica College offers admission to all students who successfully complete the Young Scholars program with a New York State Advanced Regents Diploma. Eligible students will receive financial assistance consisting of scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study allocations to meet their financial needs. Financial need will be determined by the prevailing need-analysis methodology used at the time that Young Scholars students apply for admission.



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## Grow Big Dreams

The annual average cost to provide the Young Scholars program is \$1,500 per student. That is why program funding remains a critical priority.

Today, the primary funding sources are Utica College, the Utica City School District and the New York State Liberty Partnerships Program. However, with schools being increasingly called upon to do more with less, the future of the Young Scholars depends on community support for sustainability.

While community organizations and individuals, including The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc., have provided additional funds, Young Scholars needs your support.

All children deserve to **grow big dreams.**

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Through educational and social skills development, the Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program enriches the community by motivating students to achieve college and career readiness for life-long success.



### Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program

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### Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program

A Collaborative Project  
of Utica College and the  
Utica City School District